

# EDEN'S OWN

## JOURNAL

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### ROCKINGHAM

# County Star

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## Winner of \$20K bedroom make-over announced

On June 30th at UNC Rockingham Health Care in Eden, Linda Dillard, Operating Room Technician, was presented with a crystal knot representing how all of our lives are intertwined and how together we can beat any odds. This beautiful piece was a special place holder for the big prize was a spectacular \$20,000 Bedroom makeover to be performed by Marta Mitchell Interior Design.

Steve Elbin, CEO of UNC Rockingham Health Care said, "When the public thinks about healthcare heroes they immediately think of physicians and nurses. And these folks in environmental services and food services and engineering facilities, the general public may not realize how critical you are to the ability of the clinicians to do their job. I think it's so great, Linda, that you, on behalf of your coworkers are able to receive this award." Elbin then introduced Marta Mitchell of Marta Mitchell Interior Design.



Contest Winner Linda Dillard (light blue scrubs), with Marta Mitchell (red jump-suit), and the members of Marta Mitchell Interior Design Team.

Opening in 1989, Marta Mitchell Interior Design is a versatile team-based firm that collaborates with builders, contractors, architects and of course the homeowner/client. Marta said, "When COVID first became a major issue we all started working from home. We were lucky too because we were already set up with video conferencing and a lot of what we do involves technology, so we were able to continue almost seamlessly. After being touched by the news stories of what the health care workers were facing, how exhausted they were after coming home, and all the sacrifices they were making, we started brainstorming on

what we can do to help, and it was an obvious decision because we 'gotta do what we do best'"

Mitchell continued, "So we thought, How can we honor somebody in the healthcare industry, fighting this COVID battle in a way that would be meaningful for them, for us and for the community. That's how we came up with a "Haven for a Healthcare Warrior" 20K Giveaway. That's what they need the most, a haven in their homes that they can come home to and relax." Thus the bedroom makeover was born."

Nominations were requested from Doctors and Nurses in the field through a link on Mitchell's website. The requirements were simple... someone in healthcare, directly involved in the COVID battle. They had to be a resident of either Guilford or Rockingham County.

There were 101 Inspiring nominations from COVID 19 Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics, and local Healthcare Warriors.

There were 4 judges, 2 from the Mitchell Interior Design team, and two department heads from Cone Hospital. The four selected Linda Dillard, a hardworking team member of UNC Rockingham Health Care.

Misti Weadon, the Director of Environmental Services at UNC Rockingham Health Care, nominated Linda for the Haven for a Healthcare Warrior contest.

Mitchell recalled, "It was really hard to select, some of us in tears reading the nominations. I wish we had a lot more money to do this for all of them. Linda Dillard of Morehead Hospital was the unanimous winner. There was no questions when we started looking deeply into the sacrifices and loving actions of all the nominations that she was the winner."

Dillard has a great story and she was the only candidate nominated by the hospital director Misti Weadon.



**Dillard with her dedicated co-workers at  
UNC Rockingham Health Center**

Linda works as an OR Tech typically, but when COVID started she was one of the first to volunteer to work in environmental services in our COVID unit, on the third floor. She is married and also cares for her husband and mother, therefore she had apprehension, but she showed a lot of bravery and courage. She also worked in the ICU and emergency department where we had COVID and suspected COVID patients. She helps comfort her coworkers into understanding that we would keep them safe and that they could keep themselves safe while doing that.

Mitchell said that after the initial meeting with Dillard in her home we will understand that scope of her project, as well as her vision and style. We will also measure her existing bedroom, and document this on AutoCAD, so that we can start planning a new interior layout and furniture. We will present our proposal to her, get her input and make final adjustments. Next comes the purchase of furnishings and accessories, plus scheduling of subcontractors (electricians, painters, cabinets, etc.). Eventually the installation day will arrive, when the MMID team show up with a big trucks, and install everything. The whole project will be completed before the end of 2020.

Attending the presentation were many city officials and community leaders who are so proud of the job Dillard has done during the

Covid-19 pandemic at UNC Rockingham.

Mayor Nevil Hall said, "We congratulate Dillard on behalf of the Eden City Council for her diligent work that led to this well-deserved award. It takes a special person to step up and be willing to put themselves and their families in harm's way for others. UNC Rockingham Healthcare is the city's largest employer."